US Pre-conditions on ISRO

2276. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what it is a fact that the U.S. Government have put two pre-conditions for withdrawing sanctions on ISRO;

(b) if so, what are those pre-conditions; and

(c) what has been Government's reaction to the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA)- (a) The US Government stipulated three pre-conditions for withdrawing sanctions on ISRO.

(b) The pre-conditions are:

(i) Foregoing any further imports from Russia of production equipment or technology for the cryogenic orbital transfer stages that ISRO had contracted to procure from Russia;

(ii) Providing Russia with assurances that cryogenic stages obtained under the contract will be used only to launch satellites on the Geostationary Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV); and

(iii) Affirm, as a matter of national policy, India's commitment to implement and enforce missile export controls consistent with MTCR guidelines.

(c) Government pointed out that the ISRO-Glavkosmos contract contains adequate assurances on the civilian uses of the imported cryogenic engines & technology and that it would not be diverted or transferred to third countries. Government are committed to continue with the policy of achieving self-reliance in the fields of frontier technologies which have a maior bearing on India's socio-economic develoomment programmes and observe self-restraint in exporting missile-related technologies. As a matter of polily, Government have reservations on adhoc and discriminatory export controls as envisioned in the MTCR.

U. S. Statements a Hindrance to India's efforts to Restore Normalcy in Jammu and Kashmir

2277. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the U. S. officials continue to make objectionable remarks about the strife-torn State of Kashmir as well as about Punjab which tend to encourage terrorism in these States and hinder India's efforts to restore normalcy there; and

(b) if so, what diplomatic measures, besides merely expressing resentment over them, Government of India are adopting to persuade the U.S. Administration not be encourage and abet terrorism in India and also not to encourage Pakistan to further intensify her and Pro-terrorism activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA)- (a) and (b) Certain recent U. S. statements relating to Kashmir and to Punjab have caused us concern. Government have been conveying their concern and attempting to put matters into perspective for the US Administration through diplomatic channels. Our Ambasador and other officials in the Mission/Posts in the US have been in regular touch with US officials through letters, personal meetings etc. US officials visiting India also meet their counterparts as well as Ministers, Members of Parliament etc. Our Embassy in Washington is also maintaining regular contact with US Congressmen. Through such measures Government have conveyed that unbalanced references by US officials on Jammu and Kashmir and the situation in Punjab only encourage Pakistan and the terrorist supported by them to continue with their violent activities.